

Physiography and Drainage

Chapter 3: Physiography and Drainage · Topic 1

Key Concept

India's major physiographic divisions include the Himalayan mountains, the Northern Plains, the Peninsular Plateau, and coastal plains.

The Himalayas, formed by tectonic collision, are the youngest and highest mountain range, still rising due to ongoing plate movement.

Major river systems include the Ganges, Brahmaputra, and Indus in the north, and the Godavari, Krishna, and Kaveri in peninsular India.

These diverse physiographic features and drainage systems significantly influence agriculture, settlement patterns, and regional development.

Quick Revision Notes

- Divisions: Himalayas, Northern Plains, Plateau, coastal plains.
- Himalayas: youngest, highest, tectonic collision formed.
- Still rising due to plate movement.
- Northern rivers: Ganges, Brahmaputra, Indus.
- Peninsular rivers: Godavari, Krishna, Kaveri.
- These features influence agriculture.
- Also influence settlement patterns.
- And regional development overall.

Practice Questions

- 1 Draw a map showing India's physiographic divisions.
- 2 Research how the Himalayas formed.
- 3 List three northern and three peninsular rivers.
- 4 Discuss how rivers influence agriculture.
- 5 Research the Northern Plains' formation.
- 6 Explain India's physiography in your own words.